

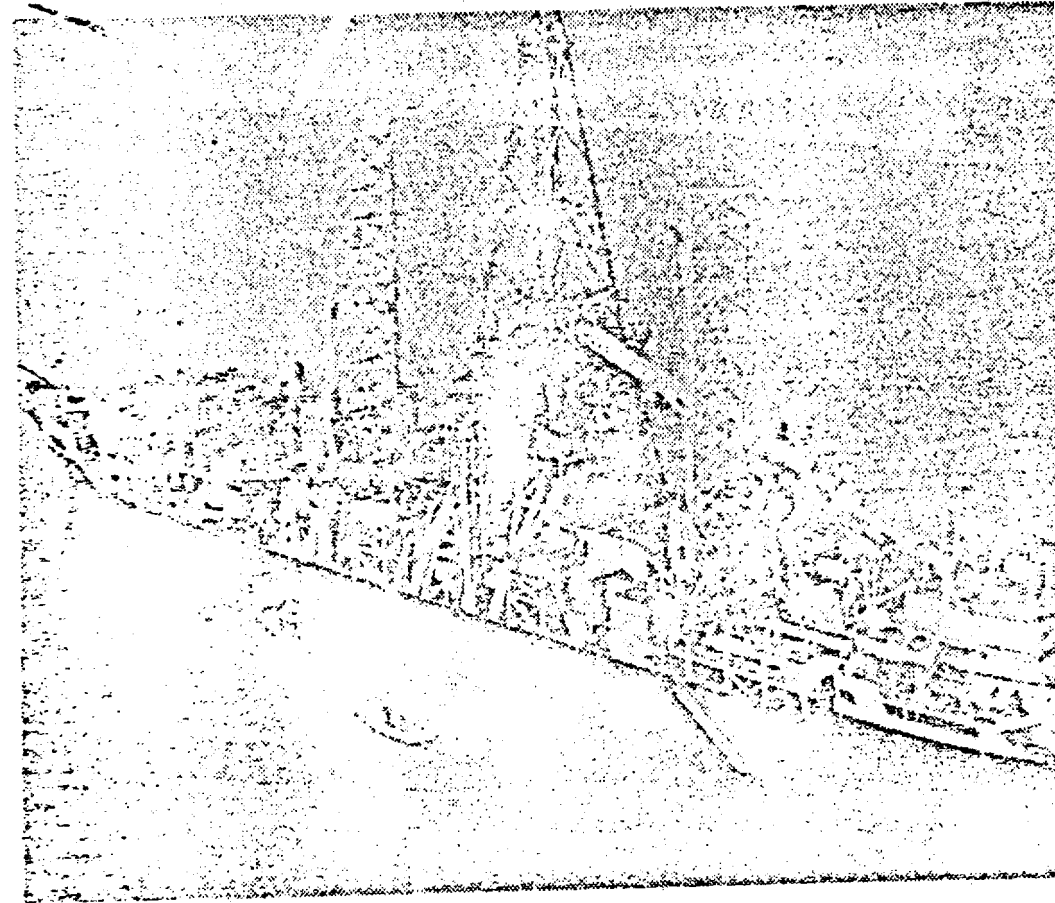
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# C.I.A. SALVAGE SHIP UP PART OF SOVIET S IN 1968, FAILED TO R. ATOM MISSILES



The Glomar Explorer, which was used in 1974 to salvage part of a Soviet submarine

## HUGHES BUILT SHIP

Bodies of 70 Russians  
Were Found in Craft  
and Buried at Sea.

By SEYMOUR HERSH

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 18—  
The Central Intelligence Agency  
financed the construction of a

multimillion-dollar deep-sea salvage vessel and used it in an unsuccessful effort last summer to recover hydrogen-warhead missiles and codes from a sunken Soviet nuclear submarine in the Pacific Ocean, according to high Government officials.

The salvage vessel, constructed under disguise for the C.I.A. by Howard R. Hughes, the eccentric billionaire industrialist, did successfully recover about one-third of the submarine, the officials said, but the portion raised from the ocean bottom did not include either the ship's missiles or its code

Instead, the Government officials said, the C.I.A.-led expedition recovered the first section of the ship containing the bodies of more than 70 Soviet seamen and officers who went down with the vessel when it mysteriously sank in 1968 and sank in more than three miles of water. The bodies of the Soviet submariners were buried at sea in military ceremonies that were filmed and recorded by C.I.A. technicians.

Although thousands of scientists and workers had security clearance for the program, known as Project Jennifer, the

salvage vessel, with the cooperation of Mr. Hughes, first underwent high-level evaluation in the early nineteen-seventies. Critics of the program have said that the value of the information that could be gleaned from what they depict as out-